



CITY OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA

THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
815 WASHINGTON STREET
READING, PA 19601-3690
(610) 655-6204
WWW.READINGPA.GOV

MEDIA ADVISORY
December 13, 2010

Contact: Frank Denbowski
610-655-6320

City Appoints Task Force for Peer-to-Peer Recreation Study

READING, PA For immediate release -- A task force whose members will serve as advisors in a new recreation study has been formed by the City of Reading as the result of a \$10,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

The DCNR grant, announced in October, enables the city to conduct a Regional Peer-to-Peer Study. The study project, to be conducted over the course of 12 to 18 months, will assess and inventory all public and private recreation facilities in Reading. Following inventory, the task force will focus on possibilities of funding the acquisition, development, and operation of park lands and open spaces. The group may also recommend potential composition and structure of a Municipal Parks and Recreation Organization to coordinate, organize and promote on-going activities.

The task force members include the following individuals:

- * Frank Denbowski, Chief of Staff in the Mayor's office
- * Vaughn Spencer, City Council President
- * Marcia Goodman-Hinnershitz, City Council District 2 representative
- * Mike Schorn, City Council District 4 member emeritus and long-time recreation activist
- * Yvonne Stroman, Reading School Board President
- * John Santoro, Reading School Board member
- * Frank Vecchio, Reading School District Acting Superintendent

Specific citizen interests and desires for community recreation opportunities will also be evaluated. The task force will welcome suggestions from residents for programs and facility usage for all ages. The members will then recommend options for conducting or improving community recreation programs.

In October, the City of Reading entered into a joint agreement as a participating municipality with the Reading School District to create scheduling policies on uses of their facilities.

The task force will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers, second floor of City Hall, Eighth and Washington streets.

- # # # -



FAX: (610) 655-6549